

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

2 9TH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2700



88-8812

DATE: March 8, 1988

TO: District Superintendents
County Superintendents
Deans of Education
Directors of Teacher Education

FROM: *Richard K. Mastain*
Richard K. Mastain, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: District Intern Certificate Program

AB 1782 (Chapter 1468, Statutes of 1987) was signed by Governor Deukmejian on September 30, 1987. This statute amended and renamed the Teacher Trainee Certificate Program. The program is now called the District Intern Certificate Program. The Teacher Trainee Certificate Program was an alternative program for the training and certification of secondary school teachers. In addition to changing the name of the program, AB 1782 (Hughes) amended the statutes that governed the program. This new statute expanded the District Intern Certificate Program to include kindergarten and grades one through twelve, and bilingual classrooms. AB 1782 does not affect any person who was enrolled in a Teacher Trainee Program before January 1, 1988.

Certificate Requirements

The minimum requirements for earning the District Intern Certificate include all of the following for all applicants who will be interns in kindergarten and grades one through twelve.

- (1) Possession of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
 - (A) Applicants who will teach in departmentalized classes in grades six to twelve (including bilingual) must have completed an undergraduate academic major or minor in the subject(s) to be taught.
 - (B) Applicants who will teach in self-contained classes (in kindergarten or grades one to eight, including bilingual) must have completed an undergraduate degree with an academic major or minor, or a diversified or liberal arts program. The degree program must include the subject matter coursework prescribed in Section 44314 of the Education Code.
- (2) Passage of the California Basic Educational Skills Test.

- (3) Passage of the Commission-approved subject matter examination(s) for the subject area(s) in which the district intern is authorized to teach.
- (4) Verification by the governing board of the employing agency that fully credentialed teachers are not available and that the district intern will be assisted and guided throughout the training period by (1) a certificated employee who has been designated as a mentor teacher, or (2) a certificated employee who has been selected through a competitive process which has been developed in consultation with the certificated exclusive bargaining agent and approved by the governing body of the district, or (3) personnel who are employed by institutions of higher education to supervise student teachers.
- (5) Certificate of Clearance verifying the district intern's personal identification and good moral character.

In addition to the requirements above, district interns authorized to teach in bilingual classrooms shall demonstrate the following.

- (6) Passage of the oral language component of the Commission-approved assessment program leading to the Bilingual Certificate of Competence.

Application Procedure

The applicant for a District Intern Certificate should submit:

- A completed credential application form;
- The credential application fee (\$50);
- A completed character and identification clearance application;
- Duplicate fingerprint cards and fee (\$14 for the FBI; \$16.50 for the Department of Justice);
- A CBEST Passing Verification Transcript;
- A transcript verifying receipt of the baccalaureate degree with the appropriate major or minor cited in (A) or (B) above;
- NTE scores and examination processing fee (\$30); and
- Verification by the employer that the conditions stated in (4) above have or will be met;

Authorization

The District Intern Certificate (Single Subject), authorizes the holder to teach the subject named on the certificate in grades nine to twelve or in grades six, seven, or eight in departmentalized junior high or middle schools.

The District Intern Certificate (Multiple Subjects) authorizes the holder to teach in a self-contained classroom in kindergarten and grades one through eight.

The District Intern Certificate (Multiple Subjects or Single Subject Bilingual) authorizes the holder to teach in classrooms in which limited-English-proficient

(LEP) students are enrolled. Bilingual District Interns may teach in departmentalized classrooms or self-contained classrooms depending on what basic teaching credential they are earning.

All District Intern Certificates authorize instruction only in the district that submits the verification required in (4) above.

Period of Validity

The District Intern Certificate authorizing instruction in nonbilingual classrooms (Multiple Subjects and Single Subject) is valid for two calendar years. The District Intern Certificate authorizing instruction in bilingual classrooms (Multiple Subjects and Single Subject) is valid for three calendar years. The governing board may request a one calendar-year extension of the certificate, and the Commission may, upon application, grant such a request.

Credentials Issued Upon Completion of Program

Upon successful completion of the District Intern Program and the recommendation of the governing body, the Commission issues the appropriate Multiple Subjects or Single Subject Professional Clear Credential to those persons in nonbilingual classrooms. To those who successfully completed the program while holding a District Intern Certificate (Bilingual), appropriate Multiple Subjects or Single Subject Credentials will be issued along with the Bilingual Crosscultural Specialist Credential.

Employment Status

District interns are to be classified as probationary employees throughout the intern period. Upon becoming eligible for regular nonintern credentials, they are required by law to serve one additional complete consecutive school year on regular credentials as probationary employees. If they are reelected for the next succeeding school year after the one year of probationary service under regular credentials, the former district interns must be classified as permanent employees of the district. Employees who are serving their last required complete consecutive school year as probationary employees must be notified on or before March 15 of that year of the governing board's decision to reelect or not reelect them to this type of position for the next succeeding school year. In the event the governing board does not give notice on or before March 15 of that year, the employee shall be deemed reelected for the next succeeding school year and must be classified as a permanent employee.

Program Requirements

ides assuring that certificate requirements (1) through (6) listed above are accomplished, each participating district is required to certify to the Commission that each of the following will happen.

- (1) That each district intern will be assisted and guided throughout the training program by a person who has been designated as a mentor or other support person as provided in section (4) above.
- (2) That the employing district has developed and implemented a Professional Development Plan for district interns in consultation with an accredited institution of higher education that offers Commission-approved programs of teacher preparation. The plan shall include the following.
 - (a) Provisions for annual evaluation of the district intern.
 - (b) A description of any coursework to be completed by the intern, if the employee deems it necessary.
 - (c) Prior to commencing daily teaching responsibilities, completion of 120 clock hours of training in child development and methods of teaching the subjects and grade level to which the intern will be assigned.

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Completion of six semester-units or nine quarter-units of coursework in these same areas prior to commencing daily teaching responsibilities. This coursework shall be selected in consultation with the employing district.

- (1) The 120 clock hours of training and orientation shall be under the direct supervision of an experienced permanent teacher who shall provide information to the district regarding the areas of emphasis for further study by the district intern.
 - (2) Both the supervisor and the district intern shall be compensated for the preservice training and orientation in an amount that is normally provided by the employing district for staff development or inservice activities.
- (d) A plan for completion of other preservice training and, if necessary, student teaching.
 - (e) During the first semester of employment, district interns who are employed in kindergarten or grades one through six must receive additional instruction in child development and teaching methods.
 - (f) During the first year of employment, district interns who are serving in bilingual classrooms must receive instruction in the culture and methods of teaching limited-English-proficient students.
 - (g) Employing districts may add any other training to the Professional Development Plan that the governing board chooses.

Review of District Intern Programs

Each district that elects to participate in the District Intern Certificate Program will be asked to submit its Professional Development Plan(s) to the Commission. Although the Commission does not have the authority to approve (or reject) the plan, under the terms of AB 1782, the Commission will begin to review all District Intern Programs during 1988-1989. The criteria for judging the quality of the programs will be the Standards of Program Quality for District Intern Programs. Included in the review process will be some or all of the following:

(1) On site interviews with:

District Interns
Mentor Teachers and Other Support Personnel
Principals of District Interns
Program Directors and Administrators
Preservice & Inservice Instructors and Supervisors

(2) Review of the Professional Development Plan, course syllabi, handbooks and other documentation of the program.

(3) Review of the Program's evaluation procedures, and interviews with those who are responsible for evaluating individual interns.

(4) Observation of the classroom performances of district interns.

Standards of Program Quality

AB 1782 requires the Commission to adopt standards of program quality for District Intern Certificate Programs. The law requires that these standards address the quality of the training, support, evaluation and performance of the district interns. If you or a representative of your district would like to participate in the development of the standards, please contact Dr. Michael McKibbin (916) 445-4438, who is a Consultant on the Commission's professional staff. The recommended Standards will be distributed for reaction during the Spring of 1988. The final Standards for District Intern Certificate Programs will be adopted by the Commission by July 1, 1988. The section of the statute that pertains to the development of standards states:

44327 (a) On or before July 1, 1988, the commission, in consultation with participating school districts and other affected organizations, shall adopt standards related to the quality of the training, support, evaluation, and performance of district interns. The standards shall be appropriate for an alternative program of teacher recruitment, preparation, and certification. To the extent feasible, the standards shall also be equivalent to the standards of the commission for professional preparation programs in colleges and universities.

If there is sufficient interest, the Commission will hold regional seminars to discuss program requirements, professional development plans, costs and benefits, and standards of program quality. If you or a person from your district are interested in attending such a seminar, please complete and return the attached form.

If you have questions about the District Intern Certificate Program, the Commission staff would be glad to answer your questions, or to put you in contact with persons who have developed alternative teacher training programs in California. If you have questions, please call or write Dr. Michael McKibbin, (916) 445-4438.

Evaluation of the District Intern Program

AB 1782 also requires the Commission to study the effectiveness of the District Intern Certificate Program and report its findings to the Legislature on or before January 1, 1993. A similar requirement was included in the 1983 law that established the Teacher Trainee Program. The Commission conducted a two-year study of the Teacher Trainee Program and reported the results in 1987. The methodology of the study included questionnaires that were completed by 80% of the participants, interviews with administrators of the programs, and interviews with more than two-thirds of the participating teacher trainees, mentor teachers and evaluators. The study also included observation of more than 450 class periods using an instrument to assess the performance of the teacher trainees. The Commission compared the experiences and performances of the second-year teacher trainees with those of second-year certificated teachers and second-year emergency credential holders. The Commission expects that a similar methodology will be used to complete the 1993 study. All districts with interns will be asked to participate in this evaluation.

District Intern Questionnaire

I am interested in receiving a copy of the Standards of Program Quality for District Intern Programs.

Name

Address

Our district is interested in attending a seminar about District Intern Programs.

Name of District

Contact Person

Phone Number

Best Days and Dates
(March, April, and May)

Worst Days and Dates
(March, April, and May)

Please return this questionnaire to:

Commission on Teacher Credentialing
1812 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 94244-2700
Attn: Michael McKibbin